

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, February 5, 2021

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Mardi Gras 2021

Safe Celebration Resources

Mardi Gras looks very different this year with the COVID-19 pandemic raging on, but there are still ways to celebrate safely and responsibly. New Orleans & Company has compiled a list of [virtual events and Krewe activities](#) for the holiday season. The [Krewe of House Floats map](#) offers a list of decorated houses near you. Remember that any gathering larger than 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors is prohibited and that [free mobile testing](#) is available throughout the city.

Alcohol Sale Restrictions

From Friday, February 12 at 6:00 a.m. through Wednesday, February 17 at 6:00 a.m., Orleans Parish [bars must cease operations](#) including outdoor table service, drive thru, curbside, and take out sales. Restaurants will also be prohibited from selling alcoholic beverages through drive thru, curbside, and take out sales. Sale of packaged alcohol will be prohibited in the French Quarter and Central Business District. Industry workers can file for aid on [the Louisiana Workforce Commission website](#).

Street Closures

From Friday, February 12 to Tuesday, February 16 from 7:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m. each day, all vehicular traffic entering the French Quarter will be screened. Additionally,

individuals are prohibited from loitering on the streets listed below. Only residents, employees, hotel guests, and business customers will be allowed into the interior.

- Bourbon between Canal and Orleans
- Frenchman between Esplanade and Royal
- Decatur between Dumaine and Toulouse

No vehicular passes will be required. Travel in these areas for any other reason will be prohibited. Vehicles will not be allowed to cross Bourbon between Canal and St. Ann, but will be allowed to cross between Dumaine and Esplanade.

No Parking Zones will also be in place between Friday, February 12 and Wednesday, February 17 from noon - 2:00 a.m. each day along the 700 and 800 blocks of Iberville, Bienville, Conti, St Louis, Toulouse, St. Peter, Orleans, St. Ann, and Bourbon. Canal (both sides) from Convention Center Blvd to Burgundy will also be a No Parking Zone. See [NOLA Ready](#) for additional details on Mardi Gras 2021 protocol.

Security

NOPD, LSP, mounted unit, and special operations personnel is expected to cover throughout the French Quarter. Light towers, temporary security cameras, law enforcement sky towers, will also be placed along the streets of Bourbon and Canal.

NOPD Food Donations

If you would like to support NOPD Eighth District officers, meal donations are being accepted for drop-off at 334 Royal between Friday, February 12 and Monday, February 15. Lunch is requested for 11:00 a.m. and dinner is requested for delivery at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Officer Bronson Gettridge at bgettridge@nola.gov.



City Hall Relocation Update

On January 28, the Office of Neighborhood Engagement held a virtual meeting to update the public on efforts to relocate City Hall from its current location in the Central Business District to the Municipal Auditorium in Armstrong Park. The City will follow up with the creation of a webpage to house information about the project in the near future, but the meeting presentation [can be viewed here](#) in the meantime.

The project would include a full renovation of the Municipal Auditorium, which is estimated to cost between \$100 and \$150 million dollars - though only \$60 million has been secured to date, which includes \$38 million from FEMA and \$22 million from bonds. Additional funding is expected from the sale of the current City Hall on Poydras, though some were quick to ask if that included preserving the building or a potential demolition.

Many residents of Treme and the French Quarter tuned into the zoom meeting. Some notable concerns were the impacts on nearby parking and stormwater management. Others pointed out that the community had already suggested uses for the blighted Municipal Auditorium that were more focused on the importance of Armstrong Park's cultural connection. Read more about the meeting in [this NOLA.com article](#).

What are your thoughts on the Administration's proposal?



5G Guidelines Meeting

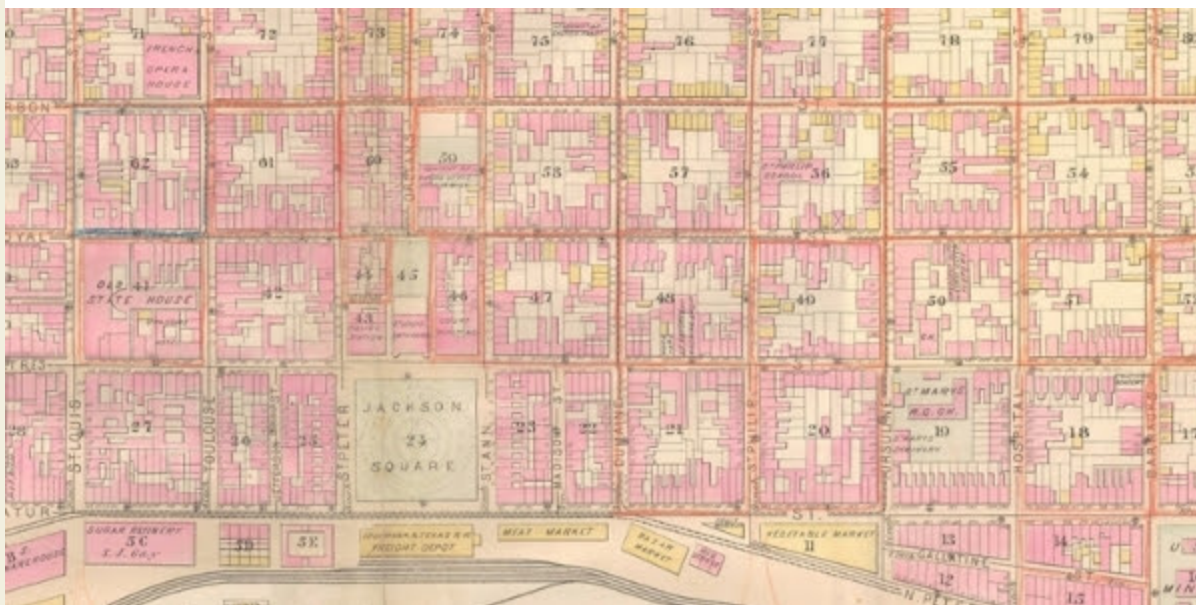
Friday, February 12

10:00 a.m.

[Zoom](#) Call-in Number: (312) 626-6799

Access Code: 998 9179 8596

The public is invited to participate in the review of the proposed [Small Cell Guidelines](#) next week. Following the presentation by the Department of Public Works staff, the meeting will take a 30-minute recess to allow for submittal of public comment by email to esburke@nola.gov. The comments will be read aloud as part of the meeting record. A report on the meeting will be submitted to the City Council along with a copy of the Small Cell Guidelines within 30 days of the meeting.



Governor Nicholls Street Renaming

You may have read that the City plans to rename several streets associated with the Civil War Confederacy. In the French Quarter that includes Governor Nicholls Street, which was given its current name in 1909. The [New Orleans City Council Streets Renaming Commission](#) has recommended that it be renamed after civil rights attorney Edward Lolis Elie, who lived on the street in the Tremé. The final decision on the names will be made by the City Council, so the commission's recommendation is only a recommendation.

Numerous French Quarter residents have urged the city to return the street name to the name it held for almost 200 years prior to its current name, Hospital Street. You have likely seen the beautiful old tile signs that say this street was formerly known as Calle del Hospital. The boards of VCPORA and French Quarter Citizens have tentatively endorsed this name, pending hearing further from their members, particularly ones who live on the street.

The Historic Faubourg Tremé Association (HFTA) has voted that it would like to rename the street Bayou Road. Although the name Hospital Street was used in Tremé in the late 1800s, it was called Bayou Road before the area was developed. The name Bayou Road never extended into the Vieux Carré. Just as many French Quarter streets today change names at Canal Street, the City could choose to rename Governor Nicholls for one historical name in Tremé and another in the Quarter with Rampart Street as the dividing boundary.

Historian Jari Honra has put together a history of the street [available for reading here](#). You will read that there have been several efforts over the years to return the street to its original name. Please let us know your thoughts of a future name for Governor Nicholls by emailing us at info@vcpora.org. Please indicate if you live on the street.



COVID-19 Meal Program Extended

The [COVID-19 Meal Assistance Program](#), which engages local restaurants to provide twice daily meals to eligible New Orleanians experiencing food insecurity, has been extended until March 2021. Eligible recipients are COVID-impacted residents not receiving other federally supported food assistance, including seniors, adults with high-risk health conditions and special medical needs, COVID-positive individuals or those who are quarantined, homeless residents, and children under age 18. Eligible recipients can apply by calling 311 or going to nola.gov/311. Ineligible residents in need of food support are encouraged to call 211 to be connected to other services.



Filming Notice

Crews will film portions of the television show "Queen of the South" in Armstrong Park this upcoming Monday, February 8 from approximately 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. There will also be parking restrictions and intermittent traffic control along N Rampart between St. Ann and St. Peter. See our [Facebook post](#) for additional details.



**STROBE LIGHT
SMOKE ALARM**



**BED SHAKER
SMOKE ALARM**

nola.gov/nofd | 504-658-4714

Free Fire Alarms

The New Orleans Fire Department is offering to install up to two smoke alarms in private residences free of charge. Applicants need only fill out a form on [the NOFD website](#). Batteries will be replaced in the smoke alarms of elderly or physically challenged persons who cannot change their batteries themselves. The

New Orleans Fire Department can also service deaf and hard of hearing community members with alternative smoke alarm models that utilize a strobe light or vibrating bed/pillow shakers. Additional questions can be directed to the New Orleans Fire Department's Community Relations Division at (504) 658-4714.



NOPD 8th District Update

Commander Anthony Caprera has released his February edition of "[From the Captain's Desk](#)", an 8th District NOPD Newsletter. Read it for January crime statistics, COVID-19 updates, community news, and more. Questions or feedback for the Commander can be directed by email to ajcaprera@nola.gov or by phone to (504) 658-6724.



#FQThenAndNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on 1005 Decatur. Head over to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to check it out. This weekly series showcases historic pictures, current pictures, and fun facts about our favorite French Quarter locales. Follow #FQThenAndNow the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) so you don't miss any upcoming posts from this series.

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